

# Rank one lattice type vertex operator algebras and their automorphism groups, II: E-series

Chongying Dong, Robert L. Griess Jr., Alex Ryba

**Abstract.** Let  $L$  be the  $A_1$  root lattice and  $G$  a finite subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(V)$ , where  $V = V_L$  is the associated lattice VOA (in this case,  $\text{Aut}(V) \cong \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ ). The fixed point subVOA,  $V^G$  was studied in [DG], which finds a set of generators and determines the automorphism group when  $G$  is cyclic (from the “ $A$ -series”) or dihedral (from the “ $D$ -series”). In the present article, we obtain analogous results for the remaining possibilities for  $G$ , that it belong to the “ $E$ -series”:  $G \cong \text{Alt}_4, \text{Alt}_5$  or  $\text{Sym}_4$ .

## 1 Introduction

The paper is sequel to [DG] in which we determined a set of generators and the full automorphism groups of  $V_{L_{2n}}^+$  where  $L_{2n}$  is a rank 1 lattice spanned by an element of squared length  $2n$  and  $V_{L_{2n}}^+$  is the fixed points of the lattice VOA  $V_{L_{2n}}$  under an automorphism of  $V_{L_{2n}}$  lifting the  $-1$  isometry of  $L_{2n}$ . In this paper we determine a set of generators and the full automorphism group of  $V_L^G$  when  $L = L_2$  is the root lattice of type  $A_1$  and  $G$  is an automorphism group of type tetrahedral, octahedral or icosahedral.

The graded dimensions of  $V_{L_{2n}}$ ,  $V_{L_{2n}}^+$ , and the three  $V_{L_{2n}}^G$  realize all the partition functions of rank 1 rational conformal field theories; such functions (but not the VOAs themselves) are classified in physics literature [G] and [K]. It is unknown whether two inequivalent rank 1 rational VOAs may have the same graded dimension and it

---

1991 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 17B69.

The first author is supported by NSF grant DMS-9700923 and a research grant from the Committee on Research, UC Santa Cruz.

The second author is supported by NSF grant DMS-9623038 and the University of Michigan Faculty Recognition Grant (1993–96).

is also unknown whether all the VOAs above are rational. Certainly, the  $V_{L_{2n}}$  are rational (see [D] and [DLM2]) and some progress has been made towards showing that the  $V_{L_{2n}}^+$  are rational, namely the finiteness of the number of isomorphism types of irreducible modules has been satisfied [DN1].

It is well known that the finite subgroups of  $SO(3)$  are labeled by the simply-laced Lie algebras. If  $G$  is of type  $A$  or  $D$ ,  $V_{L_2}^G$  is  $V_{L_{2n}}$  or  $V_{L_{2n}}^+$  for some  $n$ . Since the full automorphism groups for all lattice vertex operator algebras and  $V_{L_{2n}}^+$  have been determined in [DN2] and [DG], the results in this paper complete the determination of generators and full automorphism groups for this set of vertex operator algebras of rank 1. Using the results from [DN2], [DG] and the present paper one can easily see that the set of isomorphism types

$$\mathcal{S} = \{V_{L_{2n}}, V_{L_{2n}}^+, V_{L_2}^G | n \geq 1, G = Alt_4, Sym_4, Alt_5\}$$

is closed in the sense that for any  $V \in \mathcal{S}$  and a finite subgroup  $G$  of  $Aut(V)$ , then  $V^G \in \mathcal{S}$ .

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we review the invariant theory for the subgroups of  $SO(3)$  of  $E$ -series following [S]. In Section 3 we determine the generators and the automorphism groups of  $V_{L_2}^G$  for  $G \cong Alt_4, Sym_4, Alt_5$  which are the subgroups of  $SO(3)$  of type  $E$ .

We assume that the reader has some familiarity with the definition of vertex operator algebra and vertex operator algebras associated to even positive definite lattices as presented in [B], [FLM] and [DG].

## 2 Representations of $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$

The following notation will be used throughout the paper.

$W_m$	The $m$ -dimensional irreducible module for $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ .
$p_m$	The projection from a finite dimensional $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module onto its $W_m$ -homogeneous component
$T$	A particular copy of the finite group $2Alt_4$ in $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ .
$S$	A particular copy of the finite group $2Sym_4$ in $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ .
$I$	A particular copy of the finite group $2Alt_5$ in $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ .
$V^H$	The fixed points of the action of a group $H$ on a module $V$ .

We recall that the group  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  has a unique irreducible module  $W_m$  of any finite dimension  $m$  [H]. This module contains an  $m$ -dimensional integral representation,

spanned by a Chevalley basis, of the integral Chevalley group  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ . We shall write this integral representation as  $\Lambda_m$ . We shall need to work with  $SL_2(A)$  modules for various choices of a subring  $A$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . In particular, we write  $W_{m,A}$  for the  $SL_2(A)$ -module  $A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \Lambda_m$ . We write  $R$  for a ring of algebraic integers, and we let bars indicate reduction modulo a prime containing  $p$  in  $R$  and for the result of tensoring with  $\bar{R}$ .

We shall be interested in tensor products of pairs of  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. The decompositions of these tensor products into irreducibles are given by the Clebsch-Gordan formula:  $W_m \otimes W_n = W_{m+n-1} \oplus W_{m+n-3} \oplus \dots \oplus W_{n-m+1}$ , which holds whenever  $n \geq m$  [H]. A similar decomposition of  $KSL_2(K)$  modules holds for any subfield  $K$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . The main result of this section is Theorem 2.1, which is needed in Section 3.

**Theorem 2.1.** *We have*

- (i)  $p_{19}(W_9^S \otimes W_{13}^S) \neq 0$ .
- (ii)  $p_{31}(W_{13}^I \otimes W_{21}^I) \neq 0$ .
- (iii) *The 1-dimensional spaces  $p_{13}(W_7^T \otimes W_7^T)$  and  $p_{13}(W_7^T \otimes W_9^T)$  are distinct.*
- (iv) *The 1-dimensional spaces  $p_{13}(W_9^T \otimes W_9^T)$  and  $p_{13}(W_7^T \otimes W_9^T)$  are distinct.*

To establish this theorem, we must establish lower bounds for projections of particular subspaces of tensor products of  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. (The upper bounds of dimension 1 implicit in (iii) and (iv) are immediate consequences of the Clebsch-Gordan formula.) We shall establish these claims by performing explicit computations in analogous modules for a finite group of type  $SL_2(\bar{R})$  and lifting the results to characteristic 0. We begin by obtaining conditions under which we can lift statements about the dimension of images of projection maps.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Suppose that  $L$  and  $M$  are finite rank  $R$ -torsion free  $RSL_2(R)$ -modules that are equivalent over the field of fractions of  $R$ . Then  $\bar{L}$  and  $\bar{M}$  are  $\bar{R}SL_2(\bar{R})$ -modules with identical sets of composition factors.*

*Proof.* The first argument for 82.1 in [CR] (which establishes an analogous result for representations of a finite group) applies without change.  $\square$

Let  $\Gamma_{m,n}$  denote the set of degrees of irreducible constituents in the Clebsch-Gordan decomposition. Thus,  $\Gamma_{m,n} = \{m+n-1, m+n-3, \dots, m+n+1-2 \min(m,n)\}$ . When  $k \in \Gamma_{m,n}$  we write  $q_k$  for the composite of the map given by extending the scalars for  $W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}$  to the field of fractions,  $K$  of  $R$ , followed by the projection onto the  $k$ -dimensional irreducible constituent of the  $KSL_2(R)$ -module.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Suppose that  $k \in \Gamma_{m,n}$ , that  $\overline{W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}}$  is completely reducible and that the degrees of its irreducible constituents are given by  $\Gamma_{m,n}$ . Then  $\overline{Im(q_k)}$  is irreducible and  $\overline{q_k} : \overline{W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}} \rightarrow \overline{Im(q_k)}$  is a surjection.*

Proof. Let  $K$  be the field of fractions of  $R$ . The  $R$ -free  $PSL_2(R)$ -modules  $W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}$  and  $\bigoplus_{k \in \Gamma_{m,n}} W_{k,R}$  both extend to  $KPSL_2(R)$ -modules isomorphic to  $W_{m,K} \otimes W_{n,K}$ . Thus, according to Lemma 2.2, the modular reductions  $\overline{W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}}$  and  $\bigoplus_{k \in \Gamma_{m,n}} \overline{W_{k,R}}$  have the same sets of composition factors. However, our hypothesis about the composition factors of the first of these modules shows that  $\overline{W_{k,R}}$  is an irreducible  $\bar{PSL}_2(\bar{R})$ -module of degree  $k$ .

Now,  $Im(q_k)$  is an  $PSL_2(R)$ -module which is  $K$ -equivalent to  $W_{k,R}$ . Hence, by Lemma 2.2,  $\overline{Im(q_k)}$  is also an irreducible  $\bar{PSL}_2(\bar{R})$ -module of degree  $k$ . Since  $q_k$  is a surjection from  $W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}$  to  $Im(q_k)$ ,  $\overline{q_k}$ , the result of tensoring with  $\bar{R}$ , is also a surjection.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Suppose that  $k \in \Gamma_{m,n}$ , and that  $\overline{W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}}$  is completely reducible and that the degrees of its irreducible constituents are given by  $\Gamma_{m,n}$ . Suppose that  $S = \{(m_1, n_1), (m_2, n_2), \dots, (m_r, n_r)\} \subset W_{m,R} \times W_{n,R}$  has the property that  $\overline{m_1} \otimes \overline{n_1}, \overline{m_2} \otimes \overline{n_2}, \dots, \overline{m_r} \otimes \overline{n_r}$  have linearly independent images under an  $\bar{PSL}_2(\bar{R})$ -module homomorphism from  $\overline{W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}}$  onto its irreducible image of degree  $k$ . Then  $p_k(m_1 \otimes n_1), p_k(m_2 \otimes n_2), \dots, p_k(m_r \otimes n_r)$  are linearly independent.*

Proof. The modules  $\overline{W_{m,R} \otimes_{\bar{R}} W_{n,R}}$  and  $\overline{W_{m,R} \otimes_R W_{n,R}}$  are naturally isomorphic. Thus, we can identify the essentially unique  $\bar{PSL}_2(\bar{R})$ -module homomorphism from  $\overline{W_{m,R} \otimes W_{n,R}}$  onto its irreducible image of degree  $k$  with the map  $\overline{q_k}$  of Lemma 2.3. Independence of images under  $\overline{q_k}$  implies independence of the corresponding images under  $q_k$  and  $p_k$ .  $\square$

Suppose that  $F$  is a finite subgroup of  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  and that the corresponding character of  $F$  can be written over a ring of integers  $R$  with  $\bar{R} = \mathbb{F}_p$ . Moreover, if the tensor product  $\overline{W_n} \otimes \overline{W_m}$  of  $SL_2(\bar{R})$ -modules meets the conditions of Corollary 2.4, then the  $p$ -modular reduction of  $p_k(W_n^F \otimes W_m^F)$  is the projection of  $\overline{W_n^F} \otimes \overline{W_m^F}$  onto its unique  $k$ -dimensional summand. Our strategy for proving Theorem 2.1 is to compute the latter projections. Such work with barred objects is relatively pleasant since it involves linear algebra over the integers modulo a prime.

We write  $r_k$  for the projection of an  $SL_2(\bar{R})$ -module onto an irreducible summand of degree  $k$  when such a summand exists and that irreducible has multiplicity 1 in the module (the latter condition implies uniqueness of such a projection).

Here is the computation (which says in part (ii) that “ $r_k = \overline{p_k}$ ,” for suitable  $k$ ). Theorem 2.1 follows.

**Proposition 2.5.** *Let  $p = 101$ , then:*

(i) The traces for elements of  $T$ ,  $S$ , and  $I$  in  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  reduce in  $\bar{R}$  to elements of the prime field  $\mathbf{F}_{101}$ . So if  $Z = T, S$  or  $I$ , we may assume that  $R$  satisfies  $Z \leq SL_2(R)$  and  $\bar{R} = \mathbf{F}_{101}$ .

(ii) The modules  $\overline{W}_9 \otimes \overline{W}_{13}$ ,  $\overline{W}_{13} \otimes \overline{W}_{21}$ ,  $\overline{W}_7 \otimes \overline{W}_7$ ,  $\overline{W}_7 \otimes \overline{W}_9$ , and  $\overline{W}_9 \otimes \overline{W}_9$  for  $SL(2, 101)$  are all completely reducible and the degree sets of their irreducible summands are  $\{5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21\}$ ,  $\{9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33\}$ ,  $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13\}$ ,  $\{3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15\}$ , and  $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17\}$ . These degree sets match the degrees in the corresponding versions of the Clebsch-Gordan formula.

(iii)  $r_{19}(\overline{W}_9^S \otimes \overline{W}_{13}^S) \neq 0$ .

(iv)  $r_{31}(\overline{W}_{13}^I \otimes \overline{W}_{21}^I) \neq 0$ .

(v) The 1-dimensional spaces  $r_{13}(\overline{W}_7^T \otimes \overline{W}_7^T)$  and  $r_{13}(\overline{W}_7^T \otimes \overline{W}_9^T)$  are distinct.

(vi) The 1-dimensional spaces  $r_{13}(\overline{W}_9^T \otimes \overline{W}_9^T)$  and  $r_{13}(\overline{W}_7^T \otimes \overline{W}_9^T)$  are distinct.

**Method.** For (i), we note that the only character irrationalities that we need to consider involve  $5^{th}$  roots of unity, and that  $\mathbf{F}_{101}$  contains fifth roots of unity. Therefore, we may work over a suitable ring of integers,  $R$ , such that  $\bar{R} = \mathbf{F}_{101}$ .

For (ii), we compute the decompositions of the tensor products with the Meat-Axe [Pa]. Moreover, by using the Meat-Axe to determine bases for the irreducible submodules of the dual spaces of these tensor products, we obtain matrices representing all projection maps,  $r_k$ , onto irreducible summands of the tensor products.

For (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi), we compute fixed point spaces under finite subgroups of  $SL_2(\bar{R})$  with the Meat-Axe. The projections of images of tensor products of these spaces are then determined by using the representations of the projection maps that we computed in (ii).  $\square$

### 3 Generators and automorphisms of $V_{L_2}^G$

Let  $L_2 := \mathbb{Z}\alpha$ ,  $(\alpha, \alpha) = 2$ , the  $A_1$ -lattice,  $V := V_{L_2}$ , the VOA of lattice type based on  $L_2$ . We let  $G$  be a subgroup of  $Aut(V) \cong PSL(2, \mathbb{C})$  isomorphic to  $Alt_4, Sym_4$  or  $Alt_5$ . The irreducible  $W_m$  for  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  of dimension  $m$  may be interpreted as a module for  $PSL(2, \mathbb{C})$  when  $m$  is odd.

**Theorem 3.1.**  *$Aut(V^G)$  is the identity if  $G \cong Sym_4$  or  $Alt_5$  and is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  if  $G \cong Alt_4$ . So, in all cases,  $Aut(V^G) \cong N_{Aut(V)}(G)/G$*

It is well-known that  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  acts on  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$  as algebra isomorphism such that  $\mathbb{C}x + \mathbb{C}y$  is a natural  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -module. One can identify  $W_{m+1}$  with the space of degree

$m$  homogeneous polynomials. As an  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -module,  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$  has a decomposition

$$\mathbb{C}[x, y] = \bigoplus_{m \geq 1} W_m.$$

Let  $\tilde{G}$  be the preimage of  $G$  in  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  (we may assume  $\tilde{G} = T, S$  or  $I$ ) and  $A$  the algebra of invariants for the action of  $\tilde{G}$  on  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ . The following proposition can be found in [S]. In all cases,  $A$  is a quotient of a polynomial ring with 3 generators modulo an ideal generated by a single relator, indicated below.

**Proposition 3.2.** *The algebra has a set of generators as follows ( $f_n, g_n$  etc. denote homogeneous polynomials of degree  $n$ ):*

- (i) *If  $\tilde{G} \cong SL(2, 3)$ ,  $A = \mathbb{C}[f_6, f_8, f_{12}]$ , subject to the relation  $f_6^4 + f_8^3 + f_{12}^2 = 0$ .*
- (ii) *If  $\tilde{G} \cong 2 \cdot Sym_4$ ,  $A = \mathbb{C}[g_8, g_{12}, g_{18}]$ , subject to the relation  $g_{18}^2 + g_8^3 g_{12} + g_{12}^3 = 0$ .*
- (iii) *If  $\tilde{G} \cong SL(2, 5)$ ,  $A = \mathbb{C}[h_{12}, h_{20}, h_{30}]$ , subject to the relation  $h_{12}^5 + h_{20}^3 + h_{30}^2 = 0$ .*

Let  $L(c, h)$  be the irreducible highest weight module for the Virasoro algebra with central charge  $c$  and highest weight  $h$  for  $c, h \in \mathbb{C}$ . The subspace  $H$  of highest weight vectors for  $Vir$  in  $V$  is isomorphic to the subspace  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]^+$  of even polynomials in  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ , and we may and do assume that this isomorphism  $\varphi : H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[x, y]^+$  preserves degree. We identify  $W_{2m+1}$  with the degree  $m$  part of  $H$ .

Recall from [DG] that there is an isomorphism

$$(*) \quad V \cong \sum_{m \geq 0} W_{2m+1} \otimes L(1, m^2),$$

as modules for  $SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \times L(1, 0)$ . Let  $\pi_m$  be the projection of  $V$  to  $W_{2m+1} \otimes L(1, m^2)$ . Note that since  $\dim(W_1) = 1$ ,  $\pi_1$  can be interpreted as a map onto  $L(1, 0)$ .

We need the following result from [DM2] (see Lemma 2.3; also see [DM1]):

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $K$  be a compact Lie group which acts continuously on a vertex operator algebra  $U$ . Let  $M, N$  be two finite dimensional  $K$ -submodule of  $U$ . Then there exists  $n$  such that the linear span of  $\sum_{m \geq n} s_m t$ , for  $s \in M, t \in N$ , is isomorphic to  $M \otimes N$  as  $K$ -modules.*

For convenience we set  $v^1 = \varphi^{-1}(f_6)$  (resp.  $g_8$  or  $h_{12}$ ),  $v^2 = \varphi^{-1}(f_8)$  (resp.  $g_{12}$  or  $h_{20}$ ) and  $v^3 = \varphi^{-1}(f_{12})$  (resp.  $g_{18}$  or  $h_{30}$ ) if  $G \cong Alt_4$  (resp.  $Sym_4$  or  $Alt_5$ ). Then we have

**Proposition 3.4.** *The vertex operator algebra  $V^G$  is generated by  $\{\omega, v^1, v^2, v^3\}$ .*

**Proof.** We prove the result for  $\tilde{G} = T$  the other cases being similar. First note that the algebra  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]^T$  is generated by  $f_6, f_8$  and  $f_{12}$  and the algebra product can factor through the tensor product. The  $T$ -invariants of  $V$  have the form

$$V^T = \bigoplus_{m \geq 0} W_{2m+1}^T \otimes L(1, m^2).$$

It is enough to show that if  $W_{2s+1}^T \otimes L(1, s^2)$  and  $W_{2t+1}^T \otimes L(1, t^2)$  can be generated by  $\omega$  and the  $v^i$  then so are  $W_{2(s+t)+1}^T \otimes L(1, (s+t)^2)$ . We assume that  $s \geq t$ .

By Lemma 3.3,  $\text{span}\{u_m v | u \in W_{2s+1}^T \otimes L(1, s^2), v \in W_{2t+1}^T \otimes L(1, t^2), m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is exactly the subspace

$$\bigoplus_{l=2s-2t+1, 2s-2t+3, \dots, 2s+2t+1} W_l \otimes L(1, (\frac{l-1}{2})^2)$$

and  $\text{span}\{u_m v | u \in W_{2s+1}^T \otimes L(1, s^2), v \in W_{2t+1}^T \otimes L(1, t^2), m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is exactly the subspace

$$\bigoplus_{l=2s-2t+1, 2s-2t+3, \dots, 2s+2t+1} p_l(W_{2s+1}^T \otimes W_{2t+1}^T) \otimes L(1, (\frac{l-1}{2})^2).$$

Since  $p_{2(s+t)+1}(W_{2s+1}^T \otimes W_{2t+1}^T) = W_{2(s+t)+1}^T$ , we immediately see that  $W_{2(s+t)+1}^T \otimes L(1, (s+t)^2)$  can be generated by  $W_{2s+1}^T \otimes L(1, s^2)$  and  $W_{2t+1}^T \otimes L(1, t^2)$ . As a result,  $W_{2(s+t)+1}^T \otimes L(1, (s+t)^2)$  can be generated by  $\omega$  and  $v^i$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5.** *For any  $k \geq 1$ , there is an invariant bilinear form on  $W_k$ , and for any  $x, y \in W_k$  which are not orthogonal,  $p_1(x \otimes y) \neq 0$ . This applies to  $x = y \neq 0$  in  $W_k^G$  whenever  $\dim(W_k^G) = 1$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $W_k$  is the unique irreducible of dimension  $k$ , it is self-dual module. A nonzero invariant bilinear form is unique up to scalar. Since  $p_1$  maps  $W_k \otimes W_k$  onto  $W_1$ , this projection is essentially that bilinear form. Since the subspace  $W_k^G$  is nonsingularly paired with itself under such a bilinear form, the last statement follows.  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 3.1:** (i) Let  $G \cong \text{Sym}_4$ . Let  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(V^G)$ . Since  $\sigma$  preserves weights and fixes  $\omega$ , it stabilizes each  $W_{2m+1}^G$  which is the subspace of highest weight vectors of weight  $m^2$  in  $V^G$  for the Virasoro algebra. By Proposition 3.2,  $W_9^G = \mathbb{C}g_8$ ,  $W_{13}^G = \mathbb{C}g_{12}$  and  $W_{19}^G = \mathbb{C}g_{18}$ . Thus, there are scalars  $c_i \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\sigma g_i = c_i g_i$  for  $i = 8, 12, 18$ . By Lemmas 3.3 and 3.5 there exists  $m_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $0 \neq \pi_1((g_i)_{m_i} g_i) \in L(1, 0)$ . Since  $\sigma$  is trivial on  $L(1, 0)$ , we immediately have  $c_i^2 = 1$  for all  $i$ . That is,  $c_i = \pm 1$ .

From Proposition 3.2,  $W_{37}^G$  is 2-dimensional. Since  $g_{18}^2 \in W_{37}^G$  which is regarded as a subspace of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ , we see from Lemma 3.3 there exists  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $0 \neq \pi_6((g_{18})_m g_{18}) \in W_{37}^G \otimes L(1, 18^2)$ . So,  $\sigma$  has an eigenvalue 1 on  $W_{37}^G \otimes L(1, 18^2)$ . Using the actions of the Virasoro operators  $L(n)$  for  $n \geq 0$  on  $\pi_6((g_{18})_m g_{18})$  we get an eigenvector in  $W_{37}^G$  for  $\sigma$  with eigenvalue 1. Similarly, there exist  $n_1, n_2, s_1, s_2, s_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\pi_{37}((g_{12})_{n_1} \pi_{25}((g_{12})_{n_2} g_{12})) \in W_{37}^G \otimes L(1, 18^2)$  is an eigenvector of  $\sigma$  with eigenvalue  $c_{12}^3$  and  $\pi_{37}((g_8)_{s_1} \pi_{27}[(g_8)_{s_2} \pi_{21}[(g_8)_{s_3} g_{12}]])$  is an eigenvector of  $\sigma$  with eigenvalue  $c_8^3 c_{12}$ . As a result  $W_{37}^G$  contains 3 eigenvectors  $u, v, w$  of  $\sigma$  with eigenvalues 1,  $c_{12}^3$  and  $c_8^3 c_{12}$ . From Proposition 3.2, any two of  $\{u, v, w\}$  are linearly independent and the three are linearly dependent. Since  $W_{37}^G$  is 2-dimensional, we conclude  $c_{12}^3 = c_8^3 c_{12} = 1$ , whence  $c_8 = c_{12} = 1$ .

It remains to show that  $c_{18} = 1$ . By Theorem 2.1 (i) and Lemmas 3.3, there exists  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\pi_{19}((g_8)_m g_{12}) \in W_{19}^G \otimes L(1, 81)$  is an eigenvector of  $\sigma$  with eigenvalue 1. Since  $W_{19}^G$  is 1-dimensional we see that  $\sigma g_{18} = g_{19}$ . Since  $V^G$  is generated by  $\omega$  and  $g_i$  (see Proposition 3.4), we conclude that  $\sigma$  is the identity map.

(ii) The proof in the case that  $G \cong Alt_5$  is similar to that in case (i).

(iii) Let  $G \cong Alt_4$ . In this case  $V^G$  is generated by  $\omega$  and  $f_6, f_8, f_{12}$  by Proposition 3.4. Let  $\sigma \in Aut(V^G)$ . Since  $W_7^G = \mathbb{C}f_6$  and  $W_9^G = \mathbb{C}f_8$  there exist  $c_6, c_8 \in \mathbb{C}$  so that  $\sigma f_6 = c_6 f_6$  and  $\sigma f_8 = c_8 f_8$ . Using the same argument as used in the proof of case (i) gives  $c_6 = \pm 1$  and  $c_8 = \pm 1$ . Note that  $W_{13}^G = \mathbb{C}f_6^2 + \mathbb{C}f_{12}$  is 2-dimensional. From Theorem 2.1 (iii) and Lemma 3.3, there exist  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\pi_{13}((f_6)_m f_6), \pi_{13}((f_6)_n f_8) \in W_{13}^G \otimes L(1, 36)$  are linearly independent eigenvectors of  $\sigma$  with eigenvalues 1 and  $c_6 c_8$ . This implies that  $V^G$  is generated by  $\omega, f_6$  and  $f_8$  and the automorphism group is isomorphic to one of 1,  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

Recall that the normalizer  $N(G) = N_{Aut(V)}(G)$  is isomorphic to  $Sym_4$ . From Lemma 3.2 of [DM1], we know that  $V^{N(G)}$  and  $V^G$  are different, whence an element of  $N(G)/G \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$  acts on  $V^G$  as a nontrivial automorphism, denoted by  $\sigma$ . So,  $Aut(V^G)$  is either  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . If  $Aut(V^G)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ , then there exists  $\tau \in Aut(V^G)$  such that  $Aut(V^G)$  is generated by  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$ . By Theorem 2.4 of [DLM1],  $V^G$  can be decomposed

$$V^G = V_{1,1}^G \oplus V_{1,-1}^G \oplus V_{-1,1}^G \oplus V_{-1,-1}^G$$

where  $V_{\mu,\lambda}^G = \{v \in V^G | \sigma v = \mu v, \tau v = \lambda v\}$  and each is nonzero. Moreover  $Y(u, z)v \in V_{\mu_1 \mu_2, \lambda_1 \lambda_2}^G[[z, z^{-1}]]$  if  $u \in V_{\mu_1, \lambda_1}^G$  and  $v \in V_{\mu_2, \lambda_2}^G$ . It is easy to see that  $V^{N(G)} = V_{1,1}^G \oplus V_{1,-1}^G$  and  $V^{N(G)}$  has a nontrivial automorphism. This is a contradiction to (i). Thus,  $Aut(V^G)$  must be isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 3.6.** From the proof of Theorem 3.1 we see, in fact, that  $V^{Alt_4}$  is generated by  $\omega, f_6$  and  $f_8$ . This strengthens the result in Proposition 3.4.



## References

- [B] R. E. Borcherds, Vertex algebras, Kac-Moody algebras, and the Monster, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **83** (1986), 3068–3071.
- [D1] C. Dong, Vertex algebras associated with even lattices, *J. Algebra* **160** (1993), 245–265.
- [DG] C. Dong and R.L. Griess Jr., Rank one lattice type vertex operator algebras and their automorphism groups, *J. Algebra*, to appear, q-alg/9710017.
- [DLM1] C. Dong, H. Li and G. Mason, Compact automorphism groups of vertex operator algebras, *International Math. Research Notices* **18** (1996), 913–921.
- [DLM2] C. Dong, H. Li and G. Mason, Regularity of rational vertex operator algebras, *Advances. in Math.* **132** (1997), 148–166.
- [DM1] C. Dong and G. Mason, On quantum Galois theory, *Duke Math. J.* **86** (1997), 305–321.
- [DM2] C. Dong and G. Mason, Quantum Galois theory for compact Lie groups, q-alg/9804104.
- [DN1] C. Dong and K. Nagamoto, Representations of vertex operator algebra  $V_L^+$  for rank one lattice  $L$ , math.QA/9807168.
- [DN2] C. Dong and K. Nagamoto, Automorphism groups and twisted modules for lattice vertex algebras, math.QA/9808088.
- [FLM] I. B. Frenkel, J. Lepowsky and A. Meurman, Vertex Operator Algebras and the Monster, *Pure and Applied Math.*, Vol. 134, Academic Press, 1988.
- [G] P. Ginsparg, Curiosities at  $c = 1$ , *Nucl. Phys.* **295** (1988), 153–170.
- [H] J. Humphreys, Introduction to Lie Algebras and Representation Theory, *Graduate Texts. in Math.*, **9**, Springer-Verlag, 1972.
- [K] E. Kiritsis, Proof of the completeness of the classification of rational conformal field theories with  $c = 1$ , *Phys. Lett.* **B217** (1989), 427–430.
- [P] R. A. Parker, The Computer Calculation of Modular Characters (the Meat-Axe), in M. D. Atkinson, ed., *Computational Group Theory*, Academic Press, London, 1984.

- [S] T. A. Springer, Invariant Theory, *Lecture Notes In Math.*, **585**, Springer-Verlag, 1977.

Department of Mathematics, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 USA.

Email address: dong@cats.ucsc.edu (C.D.)

Department of Mathematics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1109 USA. Email Address: rlg@math.lsa.umich.edu (R.L.G.)

Department of Mathematics, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881 USA.

Email address: ryba@math.lsa.umich.edu (A.R.)